

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-9 (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing 4,6-dichloropyrimidine comprising reacting 4-chloro-6-hydroxypyrimidine with an acid chloride.

11. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 10 wherein the acid chloride is PCl_3 , POCl_3 , PCl_5 , R-PCl_2 , R-PCl_4 , R-POCl_2 , or R_3PCl_2 , where R represents $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10}$ -aryl, substituted $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10}$ -aryl, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ -alkyl, or substituted $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ -alkyl; an acid chloride of the formula $\text{R}'\text{-CO-Cl}$, where R' represents chlorine, $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_{10}$ -alkoxy, $\text{C}_6\text{-C}_{10}$ -aryloxy, $-\text{O-CCl}_3$, $-\text{CO-Cl}$, or $\text{C}_5\text{-C}_{11}$ -heteroaryloxy having 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O, and S, where the alkoxy, aryloxy, and heteroaryloxy radicals are optionally substituted; and SOCl_2 .

12. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 10 wherein the acid chloride is generated in situ.

13. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim 10 wherein 4-chloro-6-hydroxypyrimidine is used in isolated form or in the form of a reaction mixture containing the 4-chloro-6-hydroxypyrimidine and originating from the cleavage of 4-chloro-6-methoxy-pyrimidine.

14. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 10 wherein at least 1 mol of acid chloride is used per mole of 4-chloro-6-hydroxypyrimidine.

15. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 10 carried out in the presence of an aliphatic solvent, an aromatic solvent, a nitrile, an N-containing solvent, an ether, or a polyether.

16. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 10 carried out at a temperature in the range 0 to 200°C.

17. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 10 carried out under a pressure in the range 0.1 to 50 bar.

18. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 10 wherein 4-chloro-6-hydroxypyrimidine is added to the acid chloride, optionally with a solvent.